River Subarnarekha

The pollution in the river Subarnarekha is particularly in the stretch from Ranchi to Ghatshila in Bihar. The Central Pollution Control Board classified the Orissa stretch of Subarnarekha river as Class 'D', i.e. the water fit for wild life preservation and fisheries. The water quality measurements taken at three locations in Orissa i.e. Rajghat, Asti and Rasalpur indicate that the river is meeting the designated best use criteria for the stretch in Orissa and thus the river is not polluted in that segment.

(c) and (d) Measures are taken to check indsutrial pollution through regulation by the State Pollution Control Boards. The rivers Brahmani and Subarnarekha have been included under the National River Conservation Plan. Under this Plan, a sum of Rs. 9.62 crores has been provided for pollution abatement works in the towns of Talcher, Chandbali and Dharmshala (Orissa State) on the Brahmani river and a sum of Rs. 30.64 crores in the towns of Ranchi, Jamshedpur and Ghatshilla (Bihar State) on the Subarnarekha river.

The pollution abatement works include: Interception and diversion of sewage outfalls, treatment and disposal of wastewater, construction of low cost community toilet complexes, improved wood crematoria and river front development works etc.

Threat to Rhinos in Kaziranga National Park

484. PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA:
SHRI RAGHAVJI:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whetehr one-horned Rhinos in Kaziranga National Park are facing serious threat due to killing by poachers;

(b) what is the estimated number of such Rhinos in the Natioal Park;

(c) what is the numbr of killings reported during the last three years, yearwise; and

(d) what measures are contemplated to conserve and increase the number of this rare specie?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI): (a) Poaching of Rhino is one of the major threats to its population in Kaziranga National Park.

(b) The estimated number of Rhinos in Kaziranga Natoinal Park is 1164 (1993 Census).

(c) The reported killings of Rhinos during the last three years is as follows:

Year	Number of Rhinos killed
1996	26
1997	12
1998	8

(d) Preventive measure are taken against poaching by arranging regular and intensive patrolling by the forest staff. help of Home guards is also being taken for protection. Highlands have been constructed to provide shelter to marooned animals during floods. Flood restoration works are also being undertaken.

Wild Life related Crimes in Delhi

485. SHRI RAJNATH SINGH 'SURYA': Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Delhi tops in wildlife crimes over other metropolitan cities in the country;

(b) whether staff strength and resource position of Delhi's Wild Life Department is highly inadequate;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and